



come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

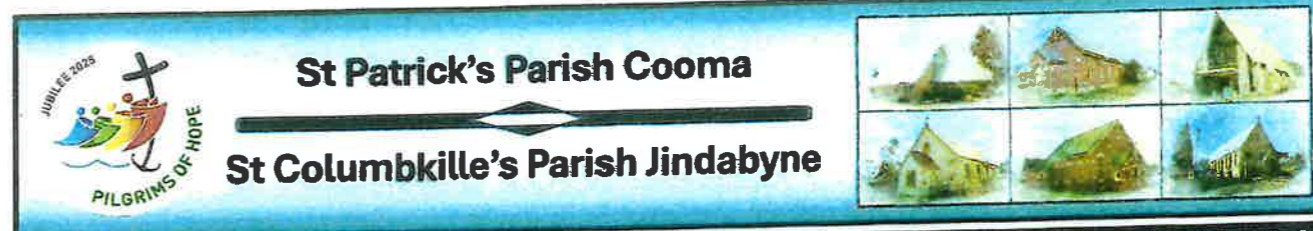
As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

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The Epiphany of the Lord

4 January 2026

First Reading Is 60:1-6

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)

4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 2:2

*Alleluia, alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.
Alleluia!*

Gospel Mt 2:1-12

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have



Epiphany of the Lord, Year A 4th January 2026

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Adaminaby
 No Mass until further notice
Berridale
 2nd & 4th Sunday
 Vigil Mass Saturday 3.30pm
 All other Sundays
 LW&HC 10am Sunday
Cooma
 Mass Sunday 10am
 Mass Tue, Thu & Fri 10am
Except 3rd Friday
 Mass Yallabee Lodge 9.30am
 Mass Hudson House Respect 11am
Jindabyne
 Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm
 Except 5th Sunday
 LW&HC 5pm Saturday
Nimmitabel
 5th Sunday
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 Vigil Mass Saturday 5pm
 All other Sundays
 LW&HC 5pm Saturday
Numeralla
 2nd Sunday LW&HC 5pm
 4th Sunday Mass 5pm

PRAYER INTENTIONS



A Journey with SAINT MARY of the Cross MACKILLOP
 God is all goodness and love. (2.1.1880)
 Mary MacKillop opens Bay View House School for young ladies, Portland, Victoria, 1864.
 Julian Tenison Woods ordained priest, Adelaide, 4.1.1857.

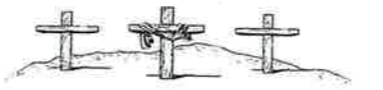




How did Mary and Joseph know that Jesus was 8lb 2oz when he was born?
 They had a weigh in a manger.
What did the third wise salesman say after his friends had already presented gold and frankincense?
 But wait – there's myrrh!
A gingerbread man went to the doctor's complaining of a sore knee.
 "A sore knee?" the doctor said. "Have you tried icing it?"
How did the bauble know that she was addicted to Christmas?
 She'd been hooked on Christmas trees all her life.

PARISH CALENDAR

Week 5th Jan 2026
 MON -
 TUE Fr Mark away for funeral
 WED No Mass
 Funeral at Boloco Cemetery
 THU **10am Mass**
 FRI No Mass
 Funeral at Moonbah Church
2nd Sunday of the Month
 SAT **3.30pm Berridale**
5pm Nimmitabel LWHC
5pm Jindabyne Mass
 SUN **10am Cooma Mass**
5pm Numeralla LWHC

REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

Anniversaries & Intentions
 All our dearly loved family and friends
"We have loved them in Life: Let us not forget them in death."
 Lola Povey, Kathleen Fraser,
 Kearin & Cora Byrne,
 Don Phillips


We pray for those who are sick in our community, may they be able to see Christ's presence in their most difficult moments:


It's impossible to know what a day may bring. God has plans for us, but sometimes those plans take us through difficult times. You must remember to stay courageous, even when the going gets tough. Saint Teresa of Avila


Prayer of the Faithful
 Response: (R)
Lord, hear our prayer

Priest: God's love for all humanity is made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ. Anyone, of any race or nation, who seeks life and love will find it in Christ through the ministry of the Church, his body on earth. Aware of our own searching and of the searching of the world we pray.
Commentator:
 That we may be ready to follow Christ wherever he leads us.
 For the Church of God, that in integrity of faith she may await and may welcome with joy him whom the immaculate Virgin conceived by a word and wondrously brought to birth, (pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

For the progress and peace of the whole world, that what is given in time may become a reward in eternity, (pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

That all nations may rejoice in the light of goodness and reject the darkness of evil. (pause) Let us Pray to the Lord


Bless Deana and Ky, Remy's parents, give them Your peace as they promises to raise their child in the Way, the Truth and the Life of Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

Help us all to build Christian community, in our homes and parishes so Remy will always know he has the support of others as he learns how to live out the Faith of Jesus. (pause) Let us pray to the Lord

That all who have died, especially those who were near to us in this life, will live forever in the light of Christ. (pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray with Mary, the queen of peace, as she intercedes for the whole world: Hail Mary.....

Priest: Gracious and loving God, we make these and all our prayers through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen


READING FOR NEXT SUNDAY
The Baptism of the Lord-Year A
 First Reading: Is 42: 1-4 6-7
 Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-38
 Gospel: Matthew 3: 13-17

BAPTISM: WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS
 Hamish William Keighley who was Baptised into our Church on the 2nd January 2026 at St Patrick's Parish Cooma, Son of Matthew and Kacie Keighley nee Patterson and
 Remy David Clare, Baptised on Sunday 4th January 2026 into our St Patrick's Parish Family son of Ky Clare and Deana Hedger.

Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the gift of this precious child and lift them up to You in baptism. May Your grace surround them, marking them as Your own and guiding them in a lifelong journey of faith. Bless their parents, godparents, and loved ones with wisdom and strength as they nurture this child in Your love.
 Amen.

